

**ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT  
ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION  
FIREARMS POLICY  
§ 165**

Responsibility

AFC employees that are assigned firearms as part of their job with the AFC are responsible for proper use, sound judgment and discretion as set out in this AFC Firearms Policy.

Policy

1. Possession of firearms by employees are prohibited while on duty or representing the AFC except for those positions as authorized by State Forester.
2. Firearms are prohibited in state vehicles, state offices and state work-centers except for those employees with a state issued firearm as authorized by the State Forester.
3. Each employee on the District Law Enforcement Team and AFC Investigators will have an AFC-issued firearm. Any other weapon carried will have prior approval from the Assistant State Forester – Protection or his designee.
4. Improper use or display of a firearm is dangerous and considered conduct unbecoming of a law enforcement officer.
5. Improper use, display, or discharge of a firearm will result in disciplinary action and may cause filing of criminal charges.
6. With the exception of training, AFC law enforcement officers will notify the Assistant State Forester – Protection or his designee immediately after use of a firearm, and file a complete written report.
7. Deadly force will be used only to protect human life.
8. Only AFC approved ammunition will be used in firearms.
9. AFC District Law Enforcement Officers shall not carry firearms except when on assigned law enforcement projects.
10. AFC law enforcement officer's assigned firearms will keep firearms in a safe place that is inaccessible to children or unauthorized persons.

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11. Authorized **non-issued firearms** for law enforcement purposes shall be limited to semi-automatic pistols or revolvers of .32 caliber or larger, firing semi-jacketed or lead factory ammunition.

A. Weapons shall be carried in a manner so the weapon is obscured from public view.

12. Caliber and type of **non-issued firearms** for special projects may be authorized by the State Forester or designee.

Repeal

This AFC Firearms Policy § 165 supercedes all earlier AFC § 165 policies and interpretive memoranda, which are hereby repealed.